

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-11. Cancelled.

12. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus comprising:

a tandem pressing line comprising a plurality of tandem presses disposed side by side; and

a work conveying apparatus for conveying a work (W) between the adjacent tandem presses;

wherein each of the tandem presses of the tandem pressing line includes a bed, plural uprights studded on the bed, and a slide supported on the uprights to be ascended or descended;

wherein the work conveying apparatus includes a main member and an arm member, the main member provided at a portion located inside the uprights of an adjacent pair of tandem presses of the tandem pressing line, and not interfering with the slide; and

wherein the arm member is movable between a position to enter into and retract from an upstream tandem press, and a position to enter into and retract from a downstream tandem press, for transferring the work from the upstream tandem press to the downstream tandem press.

13. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the main member is disposed in a space formed between an upright of the upstream

tandem press and an upright of the downstream tandem press adjacent to the upstream tandem press, and including a space existing inside the upstream upright and the downstream upright.

14. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the main member is positioned outside a contour of the slide.

15. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the main member is fixed to the upright located at one side relative to a conveying direction of the work.

16. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the main member is slidably held by a guiding member provided inside the upright of the upstream tandem press and the upright of the downstream tandem press.

17. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the main member, moved to the upstream tandem press or the downstream tandem press, is positioned outside a contour of the slide.

18. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the guiding member is fixed to the uprights located at both sides of the slide in a direction generally orthogonal to the conveying direction of the work.

19. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the arm member is a multi-joint arm including two or more joints.

20. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the main member is fixed to at an intermediate portion of the upright in the height direction, and the arm member is extended laterally from the main member.

21. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the guiding member is fixed to at an intermediate portion of the upright in the height direction, and the arm member is extended downwardly from the main member.

22. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said work conveying apparatus is a conveying robot controlled by a CPU.

23. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the arm member is a multi-joint arm including two or more joints.

24. (New) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said work conveying apparatus is a conveying robot controlled by a CPU.